

CLAIMS

1. A method for creating a searchable personal browsing history, the method comprising the steps of:

in response to a user request to obtain a web page from the Internet, automatically extracting metadata and textual data from the web page obtained from the Internet;

indexing the extracted metadata and textual data and storing the indexed metadata and textual data; and

subsequently displaying the stored metadata and textual data in categories based on the indexing, and enabling searching of the displayed categories of metadata and textual data.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the extracted metadata and textual data are stored with a reference to a location on the Internet from which the data resource was originally obtained.

3. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the indexing of stored metadata and textual data is updated each time new metadata and textual data is extracted from a new web page received from the Internet.

4. A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of a user searching the displayed categories of metadata and textual data.

5. A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of calculating statistical information on the extracted metadata relating to a user's browsing activity.

6. A method as claimed in claim 5 wherein the statistical information comprises recently visited web pages, most frequently visited web pages, recently visited downloads and recently visited images.

7. A computer program product for creating a searchable personal browsing history, said computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium;

first program instructions to respond to a user request to obtain a web page from the Internet, by automatically extracting metadata and textual data from the web page obtained from the Internet;

second program instructions to index the extracted metadata and textual data and store the indexed metadata and textual data; and

third program instructions to subsequently display the stored metadata and textual data in categories based on the indexing, and enable searching of the displayed categories of metadata and textual data; and wherein

said first, second and third program instructions are recorded on said medium.

8. A program product as claimed in claim 7 wherein the extracted metadata and textual data are stored with a reference to a location on the Internet from which the data resource was originally obtained.

9. A program product as claimed in claim 7 wherein the indexing of stored metadata and textual data is updated each time new metadata and textual data is extracted from a new web page received from the Internet.

10. A program product as claimed in claim 7 further comprising fourth program instructions to calculate statistical information on the extracted metadata relating to a user's browsing activity; and wherein said fourth program instructions are recorded on said medium.

11. A program product as claimed in claim 10 wherein the statistical information comprises recently visited web pages, most frequently visited web pages, recently visited downloads and recently visited images.

12. A system for creating a searchable personal browsing history, said system comprising:

means for responding to a user request to obtain a web page from the Internet, by automatically extracting metadata and textual data from the web page obtained from the Internet;

means for indexing the extracted metadata and textual data and storing the indexed metadata and textual data; and

means for subsequently displaying the stored metadata and textual data in categories based on the indexing, and enabling searching of the displayed categories of metadata and textual data.